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MAY 23 2007

Docket No. 501.43326X00  
Serial No. 10/733,316  
Advisory Action dated May 16, 2007**REMARKS**

By the present Amendment, claims 1 and 8 have been amended. No claims have been added or cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-4 and 8-12 remain pending in the application. Claims 1 and 8 are independent.

In the Office Action of January 23, 2007, claim 1 was rejected because of an informality. Claims 1-4 and 8-12 were rejected under 35 USC §101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In the Advisory Action dated May 16, 2007, the objection to claim 1 appears to have been remedied, because it was not further addressed. The rejections predicated on 35 USC §101 were overcome. The Advisory Action indicated that claims 1-4 and 8-12 were unclear because the meaning of the phrase "it's extracted feature" was unclear.

By the present Amendment, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 8 to better clarify the language recited therein. In particular, the phrase "it's extracted feature" has been deleted. This phrase may be confusing because it is redundant. This phrase refers to information corresponding to the detected defects. Therefore, it would appear to repeat this information.

Independent claim 1 now defines a method of transmitting image information that comprises the steps of:

imaging an object by using a digital camera means so that a digital image of said object is acquired;

subjecting said acquired digital image to an image falsification prevention treatment;

detecting a defect on said object by processing the results of said image falsification prevention treatment and extracting a feature of a detected defect;

transmitting said processed digital image and information corresponding to said detected defect via communications means;

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receiving said processed digital image and information corresponding to said detected defect;

checking said received digital image to detect the presence of image falsification;

storing said received and falsification checked digital image and information of said detected defect in a memory; and

outputting the received and falsification checked data and information of the detected defect to a display device.

According to independent claim 1, an object is imaged and subjected to an image falsification prevention treatment. Next, defects on the object are detected by processing the results of the image falsification prevention treatment and features of any detected defects are extracted. The processed digital image and information corresponding to the detected defect are transmitted via appropriate communication means. The processed digital information is received and information corresponding to the detected defect is checked to detect the presence of image falsification. The digital image and information regarding the detected defect are subsequently stored in memory. Finally, the received and falsification checked data and information concerning the detected defect are output to a display device.

Independent claim 8 has been amended to define a method of transmitting image information that comprises the steps of:

imaging an object by using a digital camera means so that a digital image of said object is acquired;

subjecting said acquired digital image to an image falsification prevention treatment;

transmitting said the results of said image falsification prevention treatment for said digital image via communications means;

receiving the results of said image falsification prevention treatment and information corresponding to said detected defect;

checking the received results of said image falsification prevention treatment for said digital image to detect the presence of falsification; and

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storing said received and falsification checked digital image in a memory; and

detecting defects on said object by processing said falsification checked and stored digital image and extracting a feature of a detected defect; and

outputting the detected defects to a display device.

As discussed above, the language concerning "it's extracted features" has also been removed in order to remedy the confusion noted in the Advisory Action.

For the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is believed in order, and courteously solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are any matters which can be resolved by way of either a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

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Advisory Action dated May 18, 2007

AUTHORIZATION

Applicants request any shortage or excess in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, and for which no other form of payment is offered, be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.43326X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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